

**Hawaii Department of Agriculture - Pesticides Branch  
3rd Quarter Report; EPA Region IX  
Apr – Jun 2014**

**ADMINISTRATIVE:**Attended:

Date:	Conference/Meeting:	Description:	Attendee(s):
Mar 31 – Apr 4, 2014	2014 PIRT Structural Pest Control, Puyallup, WA	Training for new inspectors. Topics: inspection process, interviewing tech, interpreting label language, sampling practices, mock investigations	Tory Matsumura, EHS Enforcement
April 4 – 18, 2014	Ag Leadership Program Class XIV National Trip, Wash. DC and Asheville, NC	Meet with legislators, lobbyist and USDA, EPA NOAA etc.	Christina Zimmerman, EHS Registration/Licensing
April 22 – 23, 2014	ALSTAR (Accepted Labels States Tracking & Repository) Meeting Austin, TX	Learn detailed info on ALSTAR, its software, new developments and share info for other states.	Monica Tauyan, EHS Registration/Licensing
April 22 – 24, 2014	FDA/Food Emergency Response Network Chemistry Training for GC/MS	Prepare laboratory in technical capacity and readiness to respond to food emergency situations.	Sean Knutson, EHS Chemist
May 6 – 8, 2014	Western Region Pesticide Meeting; Seattle, WA	Attend seminars and discussions about current pesticides issues. Participate in Regional meetings to identify and discuss issues to be reported in Regional reports at the National level	Tom Matsuda, Program Manager
May 19 – 23, 2014	PIRT Savannah, GA	Training for new inspectors. Topics: New regulations on WPS, sampling techniques, photographic documentation, inspection and interviewing skills	Tory Matsumura
May 28 – 29, 2014	FY 2015 Pesticide Performance Partnership Grant Negotiations, SF, CA	Meeting with Region 9 EPA to discuss various Work Plans ; objectives and measures	Tom Matsuda & Dean Yoshizu, EHS Compliance Officer
June 9 – 10, 2014	SFIREG, Arlington , VA	Present pesticide issues from States in Region 9. Receive recent updates on issues affecting EPA and States Pest. Programs.	Tom Matsuda, Region 9 Rep to SFIREG

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:**Personnel:

EHS Victoria Matsumura is on temporary assignment to the Case Development section. We have limited pesticide exposure to Mrs. Matsumura due to her pregnancy. She will continue to conduct MSI inspections.

Consulting Services.

Approval from the Governor was granted in April 2014 to develop an information technology (IT) system database within the Pesticide Branch for greater efficiency and to improve access to pesticides related information internally and to the general public. Three major sections involved are Enforcement, Registration/Licensing and Education/Certification.

## HDOA 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report

Additional meetings are being scheduled with DataHouse Consulting, Inc. to clarify other workflow plans and required reports needed by pesticide staff.

A soft rollout of the project was held and one meeting hosted by vendor DataHouse who provided initial training to Pesticide Branch staff on what some reports would look like. The Chemical Analysis Lab will also be providing their workflow plans for input into this system.

### Legislative:

#### Senate Bill No. 2110 SD2 HD1

Received word from the Legislature that 4 positions were granted out of the 8 that HDOA Pesticides Branch requested. These positions are 1 Case Developer (Oahu), Enforcement inspectors (1 - Oahu and 1- Hawaii Island and 1 Education position (Maui). Will begin the recruitment process to fill these positions in July.

### Act 105 from last year.

A sample of how redacted RUP sales records would look like when posted on HDOA's server was sent to our deputy attorney general for comment. No date set when posting will occur on HDOA website.

### Registration/Licensing:

A total of 176 licenses were processed (April-June), with fees collected totaling \$58,080. Of these licenses, 166 were for new products and 10 were renewals.

### State Special Local Need Registrations

None issued this quarter

### Emergency Exemptions; Section 18

None currently active.

### Experimental Use Permits (EUP)

1 issue this quarter

- EUP-14-04 issued to BASF for testing herbicide tolerance in rice

### Information on Water Quality Protection Program Work Plan:

- Cyantraniliprole - Requires full review by hydrologist
- Fluopyram - Does not require full groundwater review. Ran through leaching model - unlikely to leach
- Pyrifluquinazon - Does not require full groundwater review. Ran through leaching model - unlikely to leach

### Endangered Species Reviews - None

### Chemical Analysis Laboratory (CAL):

- Total number of 104 tests run for 10 samples pertaining to 4 enforcement cases was finished by the LC/MS equipment.
- Total of 68 tests were run for 5 samples pertaining to 1 batch EPA check samples. Samples were finished by the LC/MS and GC/MS equipment.
- The detector part of LC/MS was finally fixed and the accumulated samples continued to be analyzed.

## HDOA 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report

- The manager of the Chemical Terrorism Lab at DOH, applied for CDC program funds and invited the CAL to collaborate in the part of investigation - monitoring how pesticide exposure affects human being's health.
- The lab's workflow plan will be integrated into the pesticide branch database being design by DataHouse Consulting, Inc.

### Education/Certification:

#### Applicator Certification and Training Work plan:

- A total of 17 statewide certification examination sessions were held.
- One hundred seventy-nine (179) examinees were tested in Private applicator or Commercial applicator categories.
- Out of these examinees, 38 individuals became newly certified applicators and another 39 individuals were re-certified in their appropriate work profession categories.
- (8) Certified applicators collectively earned 39 recertification credits by taking quizzes.
- Twenty-three (23) CET training classes were held and attended by 651 certified applicators. These attendees collectively earned 1145 recertification credits.

#### Worker Safety Program Work plan:

There was no Worker Protection Standard training sessions conducted during this period.

#### Other trainings/technical assistance provided by Pesticide Education staff included topics on:

- Proper Pesticide Use and Safety (128) – UH CTAHR Hilo Office, C&C Parks Department
- Pesticide Law and Regulations (5) – Kamehameha Schools
- Little Fire Ant Management (67)– DOA Hilo Office
- Landscape Maintenance Training (30) – Hualalai Hawaii
- WPS/Ag Use consultation (13) Hui Ka Maoli Oi, Greeters Hawaii, Dow Agrosiences, Pukalani Plant Co, Watanabe Vegetable Processing LLC,
- Pesticide Label comprehension (1)– MacNut farm
- Organic Pest Control and IPM (16) – Leeward CC
- Farmer Resource Workshops (78) – Hilo, Kauai and Oahu
- Fumigation Workshop - Oahu (48)
- Pollinator Protection – Oahu (49)

A total of 435 individuals attended these trainings.

### Enforcement:

#### Oahu:

- Two high level episodes occurred. Kahaluu Elementary School was evacuated because of a strong odor. Some students and faculty were taken to hospitals. Swab sample analysis is pending.
- In the second high level episode, the complainant claims that pesticide applications at the neighboring basil farm killed his fish. The freshwater fish were being raised in an aquatic operation based in a residential setting in Waianae. Sample results are pending.
- As a result of a report in the news media, an inspection was conducted at Kailua District pool concerning Koloa ducks in the pool and the use of chlorine to sanitize the pool water. No violations noted.
- A complainant was filed against the Hawaii Kai Golf Course. Complainant claims that pesticides applied to the course drifted into his home. Sample results are pending.

### HDOA 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report

- HDOA's Chemical Mechanical Section staff made Tango and Siesta applications to eradicate Little Fire Ants in Waimanalo. Pre and post application stream water and benthos samples were taken. For the Siesta application, granules may have entered the stream. Sample results are pending.
- OvoControl is being applied at the AOA of the Mauna Luan condominium. The attorney for the neighboring AOA Heritage House Hawaii-Kai filed a complaint. It is suspected that the Mauna Luan has applied OvoControl without a DLNR Wildlife Control permit and did not notify pesticides branch prior to an application.
- As a follow-up to a DOH-Food and Drug referral, enforcement documented suspected violations of 1) a crop not on label and 2) improper container disposal at AP Family Farm in Waialua. Sample results are pending.

#### Maui/Molokai:

There were three complaints filed during this quarter.

- The first complaint involved a pyrethroid spray application to shrubs growing on private property close to the ocean. The complainant and companion claim that they were exposed to spray drift while sunbathing in the "buff". The complainant also believed that pesticides may have entered the ocean. The applicator replied that he asked the complainant and his party to leave the public beach prior to applying the insecticide. The applicator believed that the complainant was involved in an illegal activity – sunbathing in the nude.
- The second complaint involved the aerial application of a glyphosate herbicide to ripen sugarcane. The complainant believed that the glyphosate would be volatilized during the cane burning/harvesting operation.
- The last complaint involved a homeowner and his pest control service provider. The homeowner, who recently obtained a puppy, stated that he was not informed that the pest control technician would be servicing his residence. The pest control technician made a perimeter insecticide application, unaware that a puppy was present. He however, stopped when he discovered the puppy. The technician continued the perimeter application in areas inaccessible to the puppy. The homeowner arrived home just as the applicator completed the perimeter application.

#### Kauai:

- One complaint was filed regarding workers from a fencing company being "accidentally" exposed to pesticides sprayed from a large boom sprayer operated by Syngenta. The complaint was posted to a Facebook account prior to being reported to the HDOA. Statements were collected and the applicator was interviewed. The case is under review.
- A second complaint involved two neighbors who complained on separate days about an odor from pesticide applications by a third neighbor. Samples were collected and are pending analysis.
- A third complaint regarding an odor along the highway resulted in an investigation of a landscaping company who was maintaining the roadside. It was documented that the dilution used exceeded the dilution rate.
- An investigation was conducted of HDOA– Plant Pest Control staff and their use of Talstar P for LFA control. The LFA on Kauai has not been eradicated yet.

#### Hawaii Island:

## HDOA 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report

- A homeowner in Hilo filed a complaint, stating that her neighbor sprayed an herbicide onto and over her rock wall, causing plants in her yard to turn yellow/die. Inspector did not observe any evidence of herbicide drift into complainant's yard but noted nutritional deficiencies in the plants. Complainant agreed with inspector, stating her son thought the plant yellowing was due to nutrient deficiency.
- A Hilo resident called DOA to report concerns about the application of ant bait at Richardson Ocean Park in Hilo, Hawaii. Complainant lives across the street from Richardson Ocean Park and had concerns over how the application was made so close to the shoreline, shooting up into trees located close to the water's edge in windy conditions. Complainant expressed concerns for the environment and public entering the treated areas during and after the treatment. County of Hawaii Department of Parks and Recreation personnel made the application. Suspected violations discovered, label rate of 2.0 #/A exceeded. 22.5 #'s used for 2.5 A. (no scale available). Wind documented at 15-17 mph during application. Application made to intertidal areas, high tide entered treated areas after application. Taro and bananas planted in the park were treated, not approved for food crops.
- A homeowner in Pahoa, Hawaii, called DOA to complain about family members stalking and trying to poison her. Police were called. Inspector met with complainant at her apartment in Pahoa. Complainant claims white powder in house and poison being pumped in the walls. Inspector did not observe any evidence of substances complainant believes are present.
- A homeowner in Keaau, Hawaii called DOA to complain about an application that was being made in windy conditions. A meeting took place with the complainant within an hour of his call. Complainant's home is directly downwind of a papaya growing area and is located within ~ 60 feet from site of application. Complainant is concerned for his family and pets exposure to pesticides. The wind was measured at 4-14 mph at complainant's house. An applicator was identified. A field to be planted with papayas had been treated with Roundup. Suspected violation, Precautionary Statement. Applicator signed an Attestation indicating that he was going to terminate this leased land due to the location of complainant's residence and other residences downwind. Honcho Plus applied.

### Special Projects:

#### IPM In Schools:

The Hawaii Department of Education Facilities reported that the IPM Pilot Project at the Ala Wai Elementary School ended in June 2014. An assessment of the pilot project will be made by DOE facility staff.

#### Development of WPS Handler and Worker narrated slideshow:

Work continues on the development of a written script in English with the next phase having translators convert the English script into Ilocano, Laotian, Mandarin, Cantonese and Tagalog. We anticipate completing this slide show before the end of the program year.

#### Development of IPM informational booklet for local public schools Grades 1 – 5:

On-going development activity.

#### Development of Crop Grouping for mobile app:

On-going activity. Discussed concept with staff. Will seek out vendor to further develop.

#### Development of Label Search:

On-going activity.

## HDOA 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report

Endangered Species Protection Work plan:  
(No activities scheduled)

Meeting with Executive Officer of the Palau Environmental Quality Protection Board:

- We received a request from EPA Region 9 that Executive Officer, Ms. Roxanne Belsam and Ms. Francesca Sungino ODS/Pesticide Officer would be in Honolulu attending a meeting and had requested to meet with HDOA Pesticides to discuss some documentary sampling possibilities and to learn about the HDOA's Pesticides Branch.
- Ms. Belsam and Ms. Sungino were taken on a tour of the pesticides main office branch and Chemical Analysis Laboratory and talked with staff in enforcement, case development, registration/licensing, education.
- An invitation was extended to Ms. Sungino to attend our annual pesticides annual training in November.

SFIREG:

Pesticides Program Manager Tom Matsuda completed his 2 year term serving as the Region 9 Representative to SFIREG. His replacement is Mr. Chuck Moses of Nevada.